GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4068
ANSWERED ON:20.08.2001
EXPANSION OF POSTAL NETWORK
AMBATI BRAHMANAIAH

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether postal Department held negotiations with SEBI and the nationalised banks to use its vast network to offer their financial services;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether other Government departments and public sector undertakings have also been contacted;

(d) if so, their response in this regard;

(e) whether any steps have also been taken to involve post offices in other countries to raise revenue; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) & (b): While the Department of Posts has not held any negotiations with SEBI and Nationalised Banks regarding use of its network to offer financial services, it is open to such usage of its network by financial institution, subject to operational, technical and financial feasibility.

(c) & (d): Some financial companies and banks such as Stockholding Corporation of India, UTI Bank, IDBI Bank, Bank of Punjab and ICICI Bank have contacted the Department for utilizing its network to provide some of their financial service including setting up of Automated Teller Machines, Cash Management services, loan facility against National Savings Schemes and Demat account opening facility.

(e) & (f): No steps have been taken to involve post offices in other countries for collaborations in the financial services sector to raise revenue.